

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067)

DATE: 1/9/69

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP)
RM

On 12/13/68 Liaison Sources [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] both advised SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE that at the Board of Trustees meeting of the college, held 12/12/68, that they had been queried regarding exactly what caused the 11/25-26/68 student - Invader - SDS takeover at LeMoyne College, when Brownlee Hall and two other buildings were taken over in a state of siege.

[REDACTED] said he was candid with the Board, telling them that the week prior to the takeover COBY VERNON SMITH, male Negro, student at Southwestern College, being unable or unwilling to initiate a takeover at Southwestern, had contacted LeMoyne students urging them to make demands and take over the school if necessary; that on 11/22/68 COBY, accompanied by Invaders and DONALD PAYNE STONE of Atlanta, Ga., Field Representative of SNCC, had come to the campus to plan the takeover.

LUCIUS BURCH, wealthy and prominent Memphis attorney, office 128 North Court, who was at the Board meeting, was shocked. He said that he, BURCH, and Mrs. FRANCES (LAWRENCE) COE, member of Memphis Board of Education, were paying COBY SMITH's tuition at Southwestern to help him financially.

- 1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
- 1 - 157-109 (SNCC)
- 1 - 170-45 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 170-114 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-4394 [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-4000 (SDS)

WHL/acp

(6)

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Lawrence [initials]

ME 157-1067

BURCH immediately wrote a letter to COBY SMITH, furnishing a copy of same to [REDACTED] which in essence states that BURCH was most disturbed regarding reports of SMITH's recent activities; was not opposed to constructive dissent, but was thoroughly opposed to what happened at LeMoyne-Owen; jeopardizing the school and its most necessary life blood - community support from basically conservative whites - that these conservatives have as much right to expression as did SMITH. He said "You have attacked a school which needs support. Come and see me and we'll talk this over."

[REDACTED] said he will send [REDACTED] to see BURCH to further enlighten him on the dastardly acts of SNCC, SMITH, Invaders, and SDS.